

Community Eligibility Provision



Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a non-pricing meal option that benefits schools and students by improving student access to nutritious meals while reducing administrative requirements to qualify meal applications.

Identified Student Percentage (ISP) Calculation

$$\text{Identified Student \%} = \frac{\text{\# of Identified Students Directly Certified}}{\text{Total \# of enrolled students}} \times 100$$

Schools can be eligible to participate in CEP individually, in a group, or district-wide. When combined, the ISP is calculated using the identified student and enrollment totals for all schools in the group.

Reimbursement Rates

The ISP for a school or group of schools is multiplied by a factor of 1.6 to determine meal reimbursement rates.

Example: A school has a 48% ISP Rate $\times 1.6 = 76.80\%$

This means that 76.8% of meals served are reimbursed at the Federal free rate and the other 23.2% of meals are reimbursed at the Federal paid rate. CEP does not reimburse for the Federal reduced-price rate.

Schools with an ISP equal to or greater than 62.5% (before applying the 1.6 multiplication factor) will receive 100% of meals at the Federal free rate. The claiming percentage established for a school or group of schools is applied for a period of four school years and may be increased each year if Identified Student Percentages rise.

Direct Certification Eligibility Sources

SNAP
TANF
FDPIR
Homeless
Migrant
Runaway
Head Start
Foster
Extended Eligibility*
-SNAP, TANF & FDPIR only



CEP Eligibility

CEP eligibility is based on the percentage of identified students who are enrolled.

Schools, groups of schools or school districts must have an Identified Student Percentage (ISP) of at least 40% as of April 1st of the school year prior to implementing CEP.

Directly Certified

Students eligible for free meal benefits based on documentation obtained directly from the appropriate State or local agency.

Identified Students

Identified students are low income children who are **directly certified** for free school meals without the use of a household application.

Accurate ISP Counts

Ensure that all eligibility sources of students directly certified are included in the Identified Student Percent (ISP) counts in order to maximize reimbursement.

⇒ See the following page for information

Emily
Pla

EX22

CEP

EX 22

Montana: COVID-19 Waivers & Flexibilities | Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)

Child Nutrition Programs

Nationwide Waivers and Flexibilities

- **Afterschool Activity**
Nationwide Waiver issued 3/20/2020
- **Extended Unanticipated School Closures**
Offered to All States 4/27/2020
- **Food Service Management Company Contract**
Offered to All States 4/24/2020 | Extended through June 2021
- **Local School Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment**
Offered to All States 4/23/2020
- **Meal Times**
Nationwide Waiver issued 3/20/2020 | Extended through August 31 | Approved for SY 2020-21 6/25/2020 | Extended through December 31 | Extended in SFSP/SSO through June 2021
- **Nationwide At-risk Afterschool Area Eligibility Waiver**
Nationwide Waiver issued 9/18/2020 | Extended through June 2021
- **Nationwide Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Data Waiver**
Offered to All States 3/25/2020
- **Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver**
Offered to All States 3/25/2020 | Extended through May 31 | Extended through June 30 | Extended through July 31 | Extended through August 31 | Extended through September 30 | Extended through December 31
- Approved for School, After-school and Day Care Programs for SY 2020-21 6/25/2020 | Extended in School After-School and Day Care Programs through June 2021
- **Nationwide Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup Waiver**
Offered to All States 3/25/2020 | Extended through August 31 | Extended through September 30 | Approved for SY 2020-21 6/25/2020 | Extended through December 31 | Extended through June 2021
- **Nationwide Waivers of Child Nutrition Monitoring**
Offered to All States 3/25/2020 | Extension for Sponsors in CACFP | Extension for States in CACFP | Extensions for Schools | Extensions for Sponsors in SFSP | Extensions for States in SFSP | Extended through Aug 31
- **Nationwide Waiver for Selected Child Nutrition Program Reporting Requirements**
Offered to All States 1/7/2021
- **Nationwide Waiver of Community Eligibility Provision Deadlines in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs**
Offered to All States 3/26/2021
- **Nationwide Waiver to Allow Sponsors that Successfully Participated in the Summer Food Service Program in FY 2019 to Operate as Experienced Sponsors in FY 2021**
Offered to All States 4/1/2021
- **Nationwide Waiver to Provide Flexibility for School Meal Programs Administrative Reviews of SFAs Operating Only the SSO in SY 2021-22**
Offered to All States 5/21/2021
- **Non-congregate Feeding**
Nationwide Waiver issued 3/20/2020 | Extended through August 31 | Extended through